

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

AID-05 PC-01 IO-10 /074 W

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R 221303Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 807

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 11420

FOLLOWING REPEAT BOMBAY 2114 DTD 21 AUG 75 RECEIVED NEW DELHI
SENT YOU

QUOTE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT IN

SUBJ: AFTERMATH OF SOCIALIST PARTY MEETING BOMBAY

REF BOMBAY 2092

1. ACCORDING TO TIMES OF INDIA ARTICLE THIS MORNING 21ST,
"THE GOVT OF MAHARASHTRA IS NOT LIKELY TO GIVE PERMISSION TO

POLITICAL PARTIES TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS IN THE FUTURE."
CHIEF MIN CHAVAN WAS QUOTED BY NEWSMEN YESTERDAY AS SAYING THAT
THE GOVERNMENT HAD HAD "AN UNSATISFACTORY EXPERIENCE" WITH A
MEETING WHICH WAS ALLOWED TO BE HELD THIS WEEK. ARTICLE NOTES
THAT CHIEF MIN "WAS POSSIBLY REFERRING TO A MEETING ORGANIZED
BY THE SOCIALIST PARTY AT THE SUNDERBAI HALL ADDRESSED BY MR
N.(. GORAY, M.P." GHAVAN QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE GOVERN-
MENT HAD THOUGHT THAT "THE LEADERS WOULD THEMSELVES IMPOSE
RESTRICTIONS ON THEIR UTTERANCES" AND ADDED THAT THE GOVERN-
MENT "WAS THINKING OF NOT GIVING PERMISSION TO ANY PUBLIC
MEETINGS."

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2. COMMENT: CHIEF MIN OBVIOUSLY REFERRING TO SOCIALIST

PARTY MEETING REPORTED REFTEL AND HE HAS PROBABLY HAD BACK-
LASH FROM HAVING ALLOWED IT TO BE HELD NOT TO MENTION RAM AND
Y.B. CHAVAN WHO LIKELY IRRITATED BY V PUBLIC CHARACTER-
IZATION OF THEMSELVES AS "COWARDS" ALTHOUGH IT IS A TERM
FREQUENTLY APPLIED TO THEM IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION HERE.
MORAL OF CHIEF MIN'S PRONOUNCEMENT APPEARS TO BE THAT OPPOSITION
POLITICAL PARTIES WILL LIKELY NOT BE PERMITTED TO HOLD PUBLIC
PARTY MEETINGS HEREAFTER UNLESS THEY CAN SATISFY THE GOVERNMENT
THAT NOTHING CRITICAL IS TO BE SAID OF THE GOI ON SUCH OCCASIONS
AND THAT, FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES, THEY AGREE TO TOE THE LINE
OR ACT LIKE TRAINED SEALS. THE CONTEMPLATED ACTION WILL OF
COURSE SERVE TO DRIVE ALL MEANINGFUL OPPOSITION POLITICAL
PARTY ACTIVITY UNDERGROUND IN MAHARASHTRA.
BANE

UNQUOTE
SAXBE

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NNN

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